ACCOUNTS OF 1120

According to the revised estimates we expected that the year 1120 would close with a small surplus of Rs. 16 lakh, the receipts and disbursements anticipated having been Rs. 253·0 lakhs and Rs. 252·84 lakhs respectively. The actuals, however, gave us a surplus of Rs. 23·80 lakhs with a realised revenue of Rs. 266·57 lakhs and an expenditure amounting to Rs. 242·77 lakhs. We spent Rs. 8·54 lakhs on schemes of capital outly for expanding the lines of electricity, opening new lines of communication and for other schemes of public utility.

REVISED ESTIMATES OF 1121

When framing the budget estimates of the current year we counted on a revenue of Rs. 294·25 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 287·48 lakhs thus anticipating a surplus of Rs. 6·77 lakhs. On the basis of the actuals so far and other relevan information available we hope to realise a revenue of Rs. 324·54 lakhs—an improvement of Rs. 30·29 lakhs—and incur an expenditure of Rs, 323·50 lakhs—Rs. 36·02 lakhs in excess of the budget estimate—thus closing with a surpuls of Rs. 1·04 lakhs.

Receipts.—On the side of receipts the revenue from "Railway", "Income-tax" and "Forest and Tramway" surpasses by far our expectations while the other main items of revenue except Customs more or less keep up to the original estimates. General increase in traffic, arrears of 1944-45 earnings resulting from reversal of certain adjustments and receipts from Harbour authorities by way of capitalised compensation for loss of terminal charges consequent on the closing of the boat basin at Ernakulam have brought in all an enhanced revenue of Rs. 22·51 lakhs under "Railway". The receipts under "Forests" are expected to exceed the budget estimate of Rs. 28·89 lakhs by Rs. 5·47 lakhs mainly due to the exploitation of the Anamalai area now opened by road while it is hoped that "Income-tax" would bring an enhanced revenue of Rs. 45 lakhs against the budgetted estimate of Rs. 40 lakhs. Under 'Abkari and Ganja' we estimated a collection of Rs. 54·05 lakhs; we now place the revenue at Rs. 58·00 lakhs, the increase of Rs. 3·95 lakhs being the increased receipts under Duty on the sale of Foreign liquor and Licence fee for tapping of fermented toddy.

A new item of taxation introduced in the course of the year is a cess on copra which is expected to bring in a revenue of Rs. 1·20 lakhs.

Against these appreciable increases in revenue, a substantial fall of Rs. 9·30 lakhs is, however, expected under "Customs" and this is due to the large amount of refund of duty on motor spirits supplied to Defence Services.

Expenditure.—The expenditure of the current year according to the data now available is expected to stand at Rs. 323·50 lakhs against the budget estimate of Rs. 287·48 lakhs. Thus the increase in expenditure is anticipated to be Rs. 36·02 lakhs while the increase in revenue is fixed at Rs. 30·29 lakhs only.

As the House will admit, the cessation of war has not at all alleviated the hardships of Government servants; not only has there been no fall in the cost of living, but on the other hand the essentials of life have since become dearer and more scarce. The rates of dearness allowance were therefore slightly raised from 1st Edavam, the additional cost on this account working up to about Rs. 8·20 lakhs a year.

Orders on the revised Education Code were passed during the year and the basic pay of the primary teachers was raised from this year. The opening of a Thechnological Institute as a Post-war reconstruction measure has been effected. These and other measures are expected to increase the expenditure under "Education" by Rs. 2·91 lakhs.

Higher working expenses corresponding to larger earnings are expected to enhance the expenditure under "Railway" by Rs. 7·91 lakhs over the budget estimate of Rs. 27·23 lakhs.

The alarming shortage of food grains has necessitated further grant of all possible facilities to the ryot to ensure larger yields. This was done by increasing the rate of subsidy in the cost of manure purchased by cultivators as also by the free supply of manure and other concessions under the Grow More Food and Vegetable Campaign. All these measures mainly contribute to he increase of Rs. 2·28 lakhs over the budget estimate of Rs. 3·92 lakhs under "Agriculture".

Another head showing large increase in expenditure over the budget estimate is "Public Works". The Department records an increase of Rs. 3·98 lakhs over the budget estimate of Rs. 40·58 lakhs and this is mainly due to the construction of bunds in coastal areas.

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